

In submitting the above proposal, I realise that rules have an awkward way of producing exceptions and keys have a habit of opening more than one lock. It is also realised that a certain amount of arbitrary procedure goes into the forming of these 'rules', although careful attention has been paid to usage. It is submitted, however, that some consistency in the writing of popular names is desirable and a beginning in that direction ought now to be made.

BOMBAY,
November 4, 1951.

W. T. LOKE

25. BULL FROG (*RANA TIGRINA* DAUD.) PREYING UPON
THE COMMON TOAD (*BUFO MELANOSTICTUS* SCHNEID.)

A captive specimen of a well-sized *Rana tigrina* Daud. swallowed two adult *Bufo melanostictus* Schneid., its fellow captives. There was an interval of 15 days between the two feeds.

The above specimens were kept in the museum's workrooms and intended for modelling. They were daily fed on cockroaches (*Periplaneta* sp.).

BOMBAY,
December 14, 1951.

V. K. CHARI
Asst. Curator

26. NOTES ON THE BIONOMICS OF THE RED GOBY,
TRYPAUCHEN VAGINA BLOCH & SCHNEIDER

(With a text figure)

In his account of the Gobioid Fishes of the Gangetic Delta, Hora (1936) described the ecology and bionomics of ten species of gobies from the Uttarbagh area on the Piali river, one of the estuarine creeks a few miles on a motorable road from Calcutta. He referred to *Trypauchen vagina*, but, since specimens of this species were not available to him at Uttarbagh, its ecology and bionomics were not dealt with by him. The writer was, however, lucky to obtain specimens from the Calcutta markets and Port Canning, about 20 miles south of Calcutta, and also from the fixed engines or Chinese dip-nets operated at the mouth of the Cochin Harbour on the West Coast. As our knowledge of the bionomics of this species is meagre, the following observations seem worth recording.

Trypauchen has a wide distribution, extending from the Persian Gulf, along the coasts of India, to the Indo-Australian Archipelago and China. Koumans (1941) has given a list of localities whence this species has been recorded from India. It is generally found frequenting the coasts, estuaries and lower courses of brackish water streams, canals and creeks. Though essentially a euryhaline species, it is occasionally found to push its way up rivers into waters that are nearly or quite fresh.

Its zonation in relation to the other estuarine Gobioids is similar to that described for *Taenioides rubicundus* (Hamilton) by Hora (1936,